

In the Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions of the listings of claims in this application:

1-20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) A method for copying data from a source to a destination using a data pipe, the method comprising:

identifying at least a first characteristic of a first portion of the data;

identifying at least a second characteristic of a second portion of the data;

copying a first portion of the data through the data pipe in a first chunk in a first format based on the first characteristic; ~~and~~

generating a first header describing the contents of a first chunk, the first header including information relating to at least a first storage operation to be performed on the first chunk;

copying a second portion of the data through the data pipe in a second chunk in a second format based on the second characteristic, the second format being distinct from the first format; and

generating a second header describing the contents of a second chunk, the second header including information relating to at least a second storage operation to be performed on the second chunk.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 21, further comprising:
sending the first chunk with the first header to the destination; and
sending the second chunk with the second header to the destination.

24. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 23, wherein:
the first header indicates where to store the first chunk; and
the second header indicates where to store the second chunk.

25. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 24, further comprising:
storing the first chunk in a first storage medium in the first format; and
storing the second chunk in a second storage medium in the second format, the
second storage medium being distinct from the first storage medium.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 21, further comprising:
performing the first storage operation~~processes~~ on the first chunk; and
performing the second storage operation~~processes~~ on the second chunk.

28. (New) The method as recited in claim 27 wherein the first storage operation
and the second storage operation comprise a back up operation.

29. (New) The method as recited in claim 27 wherein the first storage operation and the second storage operation comprise an archive operation.

30. (New) The method as recited in claim 23 further comprising:
creating a first data pipe for sending the first chunk to the destination; and
creating a second data pipe for sending the second chunk to the destination.

31. (New) The method as recited in claim 30 wherein the first data pipe is created based at least on the first characteristic; and the second data pipe is created base at least on the second characteristic.

32. (New) The method as recited in claim 30 wherein the first data pipe and the second data pipe are created based at least on the respective destination.

33. (New) The method as recited in claim 21 wherein the first characteristic comprises a data type.